



United States Department of the Interior  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, DC 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
7202.4-OS-2018-01578

February 27, 2018

Via email: [60257-92185456@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:60257-92185456@requests.muckrock.com)

Daniel Sherwood  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 60257  
411A Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02144

Dear Mr. Sherwood:

On, September 4, 2018, you filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request seeking the following:

Correspondence, including attachments sent between Office of External Affairs' staff and employees at the Heartland Institute as it relates to Heartland's America First Energy Conference and any and all other meeting or conferences transmitted between January 1, 2018 until the date you conduct your search for documents. Please include emails from Heartland representatives using both of their official email (i.e. @heartland.org) and personal emails.

On September 26, 2018 we acknowledged your request (**OS-2018-01578**) and advised you of your fee status under the FOIA.

We are writing to respond to your request on behalf of the Office of the Secretary. After a search reasonably calculated to uncover all relevant documents, it has been determined that the Office of the Secretary has no records responsive to your request.

Clarice Julka, Office of the Secretary, FOIA Officer, is responsible for this denial.

You may appeal this response to the Department's FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer. If you choose to appeal, the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer must receive your FOIA appeal **no later than 90 workdays**. Appeals arriving or delivered after 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, will be deemed received on the next workday.

**Your appeal must be made in writing.** You may submit your appeal and accompanying materials to the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer by mail, courier service, fax, or email. All communications concerning your appeal should be clearly marked with the words: "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." You must include an explanation of why you believe the

Office of the Secretary's response is in error. You must also include with your appeal copies of all correspondence between you and Office of the Secretary concerning your FOIA request including your original FOIA request and Office of the Secretary's response. Failure to include with your appeal all correspondence between you and Office of the Secretary will result in the Department's rejection of your appeal, unless the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer determines (in the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer's sole discretion) that good cause exists to accept the defective appeal.

Please include your name and daytime telephone number (or the name and telephone number of an appropriate contact), email address and fax number (if available) in case the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer needs additional information or clarification of your appeal.

Department of the Interior  
Office of the Solicitor  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
MS-6556 MIB  
Washington, DC 20240  
Attn: FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office  
Telephone: (202) 208-5339  
Fax: (202) 208-6677  
Email: [FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov](mailto:FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov)

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of FOIA. *See* [5 U.S.C. 552\(c\)](#). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist."

The 2007 FOIA amendments created the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road - OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
E-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
Web: <https://ogis.archives.gov>  
Telephone: 202-741-5770  
Fax: 202-741-5769  
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

Please note that using OGIS services does not affect the timing of filing an appeal with the Department's FOIA & Privacy Act Appeals Officer.

If you have any questions regarding any of the issues discussed in this letter, you may contact Emily Karp by phone at 202-513-0765, by fax at 202-219-2374, by e-mail at [os\\_foia@ios.doi.gov](mailto:os_foia@ios.doi.gov), or by mail at U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C St, NW, MS-7328 MIB, Washington, D.C. 20240.

You also may seek dispute resolution services from our FOIA Public Liaison, Clarice Julka.

Sincerely,

Clarice Julka  
Office of the Secretary  
FOIA Officer